

This is such a misguided and abusive use of the publicly owned airwaves. Pappas Telecasting Companies' 'donation' of \$325,000 in airtime to Republican candidates in certain areas could be a powerful example of doing good. If only the Pappas Telecasting Companies also contributed equal time to the other major political parties. As it stands, it is patently unfair and yet another example of a powerful media group abusing its privileged access to the public airwaves.

Localism is not served when a corporate headquarters decides to provide one side in local elections a louder voice than others. During election season, local audiences should be offered genuine debate -- not disingenuous offers to "purchase" an equal amount of response time.

Pappas uses the public airwaves free of charge and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Pappas' actions are legally questionable and cast doubt on whether Pappas truly

intends to serve the
public interest.
Their actions show
why we need to
strengthen media
ownership rules, not
weaken them.
Further, they show
why the license
renewal process
needs to involve
more than just a
returned postcard.
Thank you.